Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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DRAFTED BY EB/OT/TA:RAMEYER:JVM APPROVED BY EB/OT/TA:WGBARRACLOUGH COMMERCE:RHARDING EUR/RPE:RBRESLER TREASURY:MCHAVES STR:SLANDE

STK:SLANDE

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R 300142Z JAN 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY LONDON INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS USMISSION OECD PARIS USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UK

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

SUBJECT: UK IMPORT SURVEILLANCE ON TVS AND TV PICTURE

TUBES

REF: LONDON 988

1. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO AGAIN BRING TO ATTENTION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OF APPROPRIATE UK OFFICIALS OUR HEIGHTENED CONCERN

OVER THE DISCRIMINATORY APPLICATION OF THEIR SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM. WE DO NOT FIND UK ARGUMENTS IN REFTEL PARTICULARLY CONVINCING OR REASSURING. IF THE SYSTEM IS IN FACT TO BE OPERATED FOR STATISTICAL MONITORING PURPOSES ONLY, THEN IT CANNOT OPERATE EFFECTIVELY WHEN ANY SOURCE OF IMPORTS IS LEFT UNCOVERED; CERTAINLY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE EC CAN HAVE NO SERIOUS OBJECTION TO A STATISTICAL MONITORING SYSTEM. THAT THE UK APPEARS TO HAVE NOW ACKNOWLEDGED ITS EC PARTNERS' CONTENTION THAT THE SYSTEM CAN HAVE DISCRIMINATING AND TRADE DISTORTING EFFECTS WITHIN THE EC CONTRARY TO THE ROME TREATY, LEADS LOGICALLY TO THE CONCLUSION THAT IT CAN HAVE A SIMILAR IMPACT ON NON-EC SUPPLIERS.

- 2. YOU SHOULD AGAIN URGE UK TO LIFT LICENSING REQUIREMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, AND TO ENSURE THAT WHILE IT REMAINS IN EFFECT LICENSES ARE ISSUED FREELY AND RAPIDLY SO AS NOT TO IMPEDE TRADE. IF THE SYSTEM OPERATES NOW OR IN THE FUTURE TO IMPEDE THE FLOW OF IMPORTS FROM THE US AND AS TO IMPAIR OUR GATT BINDINGS, WE WOULD HAVE TO REACT STRONGLY.
- 3. FYI US SUPPLIES APPROXIMATELY 35 PERCENT OF UK MARKET FOR COLOR TV PICTURE TUBES WORTH ABOUT 16 MILLION DOLLARS/YEAR AND PROPORTION IS GROWING. JAPAN SUPPLIES ABOUT 50 PERCENT OF UK MARKET. REMAINDER COMES LARGELY FROM DOMESTIC SOURCES. UK MARKET ACCOUNTS FOR ABOUT 25 PERCENT OF TOTAL US EXPORTS OF COLOR TV TUBES. IMPORTS OF TV SETS COME MAINLY FROM JAPAN AND EUROPE, INCLUDING BOTH EFTA AND EC COUNTRIES. US IS NEGLIGIBLE SUPPLIER OF SETS. END FYI. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: SURVEILLANCE, ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT, IMPORT CONTROLS, NEGOTIATIONS

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To: LONDON

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